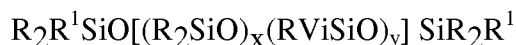


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition ~~consisting essentially of~~comprising:

(i) one or more polymers which ~~have a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more~~
~~and~~ have the formula



wherein each R is the same or different and is an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a 3,3,3-trifluoroalkyl group, R^1 is a hydroxy group or an alkenyl group, x is an integer, y is zero or an integer, and x + y is between 700 and 10 000;

(ii) treated kaolin

(iii) a curing agent; and

(iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants,

which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers; and

wherein said treated kaolin comprises a kaolin treated with an alkoxysilane of the formula $R_{(4-n)}Si(OR)_n$ wherein n has a value of 1-3; and R is an alkyl group or an aryl group.

2. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the polymer(s) comprise(s) a mixture of two polysiloxane gums having the formula $R_2ViSiO[(R_2SiO)_x(RViSiO)_y]SiR_2Vi$ and the formula $R_2ViSi(R_2SiO)_xSiR_2Vi$ wherein in each

formula, R represents an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms; Vi represents the vinyl group; and x and y each have values of 500-1,000.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition according to Claim 1[[3]] wherein the alkoxysilane is a compound selected from the group consisting of methyltriethoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, ~~vinyltriethoxysilane, and vinyltrimethoxysilane~~ and combinations thereof.

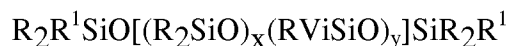
5. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about equal amounts of the polymer(s) and the kaolin.

6. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-t-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.

7. (Previously Presented) A composition in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of making a treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition ~~consisting essentially of~~ comprising:

(i) one or more polymers which have ~~a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more~~
and have the formula



wherein each R is the same or different and is an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a 3,3,3-trifluoroalkyl group, R^1 is a hydroxy group or an alkenyl group, x is an integer, y is zero or an integer, and $x + y$ is between 700 and 10 000;

(ii) treated kaolin

(iii) a curing agent; and

(iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants,

which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers, and

wherein the treated kaolin comprises a kaolin treated with an alkoxysilane of the formula

$R_{(4-n)}Si(OR)_n$ wherein n has a value of 1-3; and R is an alkyl group or an aryl group, and

which method consists essentially of the steps:

(i) mixing the polymer(s) and treated kaolin under room temperature conditions,

(ii) adding a curing agent to the mixture in (i); and curing the mixture in (ii) at a temperature above room temperature by the application of heat.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 8 in which room temperature is normal ambient temperature of 20-25°C.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein each R group is a methyl or ethyl group.

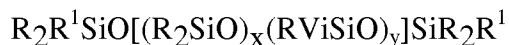
12. (Currently Amended) A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition ~~consisting essentially of~~comprising:

(i) 100 parts by weight of a polysiloxane gum ~~having a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more and~~ comprising equal parts by weight of;

(a) a first polysiloxane gum, and

(b) a second polysiloxane gum different from the first polysiloxane gum,

wherein the first and second polysiloxane gums independently have the formula



and wherein each R is the same or different and is an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a 3,3,3-trifluoroalkyl group, R^1 is a hydroxy group or an alkenyl group, x is an integer, y is zero or an integer, and x + y is between 700 and 10 000;

(ii) calcined kaolin treated with an alkyoxysilane selected from the group consisting of methyltriethoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, ~~vinyltriethoxysilane, vinyltrimethoxysilane,~~ and combinations thereof;

(iii) a curing agent; and

(iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants,

which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers.

13. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 12 wherein the first polysiloxane gum has the formula $R_2ViSiO[(R_2SiO)_x(RViSiO)_y]SiR_2Vi$ and the second polysiloxane gum has the formula $R_2ViSi(R_2SiO)_xSiR_2Vi$ wherein in each formula, R represents an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms; Vi represents the vinyl group; and x and y each have values of 500-1,000.

14. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 13 wherein each R group is a methyl or ethyl group.

15. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 14 wherein the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-t-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.

16. (Previously Presented) A composition in accordance with Claim 14 wherein the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.

17. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 13 wherein the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-t-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition in accordance with Claim 13 wherein the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.

19. (Previously Presented) A composition according to Claim 12 wherein the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-t-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.

20. (Previously Presented) A composition in accordance with Claim 12 wherein the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition in accordance with claim 1 wherein said (i) one or more polymers have a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more.

22. (New) A method in accordance with claim 8 wherein the (i) one or more polymers have a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more

23. (New) A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition in accordance with claim 12 wherein said (i) polysiloxane gum has a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistokes or more.